

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 /041 W

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R 251751Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0552

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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EMBASSY BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK

SUBJ: CIVAIR - NEW BAC-111 AIRCRAFT PROPOSED

REF: PARIS 10416 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL DESCRIBED SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO REPLACE-
MENT OF AIR FRANCE'S AGINQ CARAVELLE FLEET AND REPORTED
(PARA 8) THAT GOF MAY BE FAVORING BAC-111 AS REPLACEMENT
AIRCRAFT. AS EMBASSY PARIS CORRECTLY POINTED OUT, SPECIFI-
CATIONS OF EXISTING VERSIONS OF BAC-111 ARE NOT WELL-
SUITED TO AIR FRANCE'S NEEDS. HOWEVER, ON APRIL 24 BRITISH
AIRCRAFT CORPORATION UNVEILED A NEW VERSION OF BAC-111,
THE SERIES 800, WHICH, IT IS PROPOSED, WOULD USE THE
CFM-56 ENGINE BEING JOINTLY DEVELOPED BY GE AND SNECMA.
THE BAC-111-800 COULD CARRY UP TO 160 PASSENGERS OVER A
MAXIMUM RANGE OF 2,400 MILES, ACCORDING TO BAC PRESS RE-
LEASE, AND IT WOULD SHOW SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT OVER
EARLIER VERSIONS ON BOTH FUEL CONSUMPTION AND NOISE EMIS-
SIONS.

2. THE COMPANY STATES THE NEW VERSION IS NOW ON OFFER TO
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AIRLINES AND THAT 40 TO 50 ORDERS WOULD BE NEEDED BEFORE

DECISION TAKEN TO ENTER PRODUCTION. AN ESTIMATED POUNDS 50 MILLION WOULD BE REQUIRED FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO ENABLE THE COMPANY TO LAUNCH THE 800 INTO PRODUCTION. HOWEVER, NATIONALIZATION OF THE UK AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY IS LIKELY TO DELAY ANY GOVERNMENTAL DECISIONS ON THE -800 UNTIL 1976.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, CIVIL AVIATION, AIRCRAFT SALES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON06283
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750146-0863
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750417/aaaaappu.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 10416
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - NEW BAC-111 AIRCRAFT PROPOSED
TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK
To: STATE PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006